Gauge conversion between Hassan and Sravanabelagola

2872. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land acquisition process for gauge conversion work between Hassan and Sravanabelagola has been completed;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the above work;

(c) the amount spent so far;

(d) the reasons for stopping the above work;

(e) by when the above work would be resumed; and

(f) the amount proposed to be spent during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir. However, this is a new line work and not a gauge conversion.

(b) and (f) An outlay of Rs. 15 cr. has been provided during 2001-02.

(c) An amount of Rs. 48.77 cr. has been spent on this project upto 31.3.2001.

(d) and (e) The work is in progress as per the availability of resources.

Rail facilities to students/sports persons

2873. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Railway authorities for convenience of students and sportsmen/players;

(b) whether it is a fact that the railway concession forms for sportsmen/ player and students are not available at all the Railway Ticket Computer Reservation counters;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when action would be taken to make available these facilities to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Students get 50% concession on season tickets. Railways also grant concession in fares to Students of recognised educational institutions for going on educational tours and home town. This concession is granted at the station on the basis of certificate issued by Head of the Institution. The certificates are printed by Railways and supplied to Institutions.

Railways grant concession in fares to sports persons for participating in State/All India/National championships organised by recognised National Sports Federations which have been approved by Ministry of Railways. This concession is granted at the station on the basis of authority letter issued by the authorised Railway Officer.

Besides, complimentary card passes valid for Journey in 2nd A.C. excluding Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains, for travel from any station to any other station on Indian Railways are being issued to the winners of Arjuna Awards and Dronacharya Awards.

(b) As per extant procedure, the forms of these concessions are not kept at any Railway Station or Reservation Office of Indian Railway as the forms have to be certified by the prescribed competent authority who are outside the Railway jurisdiction.

(c) and (d) do not arise.

Accidents enquiry by other Agency

†2874. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for conducting enquiries into the rail accidents by the Commissioner of Rail Security only;

(b) whether enquiries made by Commissioner, Railway Safety reveal the rail causes of accidents, if so, proof thereof; and

(c) if not, what is the decision of Government in respect of conducting the enquiry of any of the rail accidents together with the one taken place in Kerala by some other agency rather than by the Commissioner, Safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Railway accidents are inquired into by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.